NOTE XLVI.

ON A NEW SPECIES OF THE LUCANOID GENUS ODONTOLABIS, HOPE.

BY

J. R. H. NEERVOORT van de POLL.

The new species of *Odontolabis* described below originates from Palawan, one of the Philippine Islands, situated between the northern part of Borneo and Luzon, and forms a most interesting connecting link between *O. alces* F. from Luzon, and *O. celebensis* Leuthn. from Celebes, bearing in general appearance even a greater affinity to the last named species, the dentition of the mandibles however corresponding with *O. alces* F. The great length of the mandibles, which in the mesodont form are longer than the head and prothorax together, is very remarkable and unique for the so-called *alces*-group. Now British North Borneo becomes the more and more explored, I have some hope, that, within a short time, an allied form from Borneo will also be brought to light, which I consider to be of high importance for the real appreciation of the allied species, scattered over these islands.

Odontolabis intermedius, v. d. Poll.

Male. Uniform deep black; mandibles, head, prothorax and legs dull, very finely punctured; elytra pitchy black with a bright obsidian lustre. Head large, quadrangular, much longer than the prothorax, front edge strongly emarginate, sides straight in front, canthus very narrow, postocular tubercles very much developed, obtuse and strongly directed forwards, the lower part of the cheeks coarsely

wrinkled and pitted, the uppersurface near the eyes also distantly pitted. Prothorax twice as broad as long, its front edge strongly emarginate on each side, the sides trispinose with two very deep concavities, the middle spine very long and acute, undersurface smooth, the lateral margin coarsely wrinkled. The prosternal process is well developed and projects strongly in front and beneath; the mesosternal process hardly prominent. Elytra elongate, oval. Front tibiae with three spines above the terminal fork, of which the uppermost are rudimentary in the large development.

As for general aspect and brilliancy of the wingcases it agrees well enough with *O. celebensis* Leuthn., but it is a larger and comparatively a more slender species, its prothorax is much flatter with the middle spine much longer and more acute, projecting sidewards in a straight manner and not downwards as in *celebensis*, its tubercle below the eyes is also much larger and directed obliquely forwards. *O. alces* F. is a more dull looking, broader species, with the middle spine of the thorax not very acute and the tubercle behind the eyes large and obtuse but not directed forwards.

Mandibles.

Forma mesodonta. Mandibles longer than the head and prothorax together, very slender, rounded, curved downwards, the tip slightly turned upwards, with three apical teeth of which the innermost is rather large and the two other ones very minute, and a strong tooth beyond the middle, projecting obliquely inwards not downwards. Head with raised crest.

In general shape the mandibles are very much like those of the teledont form of *O. celebensis* Leuthn. but they recede from them by the want of basal teeth. The dentition corresponds with that of the mesodont form of *O. alces* F., and it is this analogy, which made me suppose, that a still higher development, without the large tooth beyond the middle, might occur in my *intermedius* just as in *alces*,

but on the other hand, the great length of the mandibles renders this supposition somewhat doubtful. The examination of an extensive series only will enable us to settle the question satisfactorily.

Forma amphiodonta. Mandibles longer than the head, straight, rounded, with four apical teeth, strongly expanded inwards, at the base with three obtuse teeth. In the unique specimen I have, the basal teeth of the right mandible are entirely melted together, forming a single broad blunt appendix; on the left side the two undermost teeth are but faintly indicated, whilst the uppermost is rather strongly projecting.

Female. Very much like that of *O. celebensis* Leuthn. and *O. alces* F.; as far as I can judge from the single exponent I have at my disposal, it differs from both in a few peculiarities of the prothorax, viz.: the front angles are angular instead of broadly rounded, the lateral concavity before the middle spine is deeper and the spine is more prominent and acute. The uppersurface is neither so glossy as that of *celebensis*, nor so dull as that of *alces*. The front tibiae have four spines above the terminal fork.

Measurements.

	Total length mm.	Head mm.	Mandibles mm.	Prothorax mm.	Elytra mm.
mesodont	87	16 by 23	32	13 by 28	34 by 26
amphiodont	64	13 » 16	15	11 » 23	29 » 22
♀	43	7 » 13	5	10 » 20	26 » 19